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Published on 17 September 2009

Statement No. 807

**STATEMENT THAT A PROPOSAL MAY BE IMPLEMENTED
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)**

**WESTERN TURNER SYNCLINE, SECTION 10 IRON ORE PROJECT,
SHIRE OF ASHBURTON**

Proposal: To open-cut mine iron ore and link the mining operation to the existing Tom Price Mine process facilities with an infrastructure corridor. This corridor would contain an ore conveyor system, access roads, power, water and communications lines.

The proposal is further documented in schedule 1 of this statement.

Proponent: Rio Tinto Pty Ltd.

Proponent Address: 152-158 St George's Terrace, Perth WA 6000

Assessment Number: 1786

Report of the Environmental Protection Authority: Report 1325

The proposal referred to in the above report of the Environmental Protection Authority may be implemented. The implementation of that proposal is subject to the following conditions and procedures:

1 Proposal Implementation

1-1 The proponent shall implement the proposal as assessed by the Environmental Protection Authority and described in schedule 1 of this statement subject to the conditions and procedures of this statement.

2 Proponent Nomination and Contact Details

2-1 The proponent for the time being nominated by the Minister for Environment under sections 38(6) or 38(7) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* is responsible for the implementation of the proposal.

2-2 The proponent shall notify the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Department of Environment and Conservation of any change of the name and address of the proponent for the serving of notices or other correspondence within 30 days of such change.

3 Time Limit of Authorisation

3-1 The authorisation to implement the proposal provided for in this statement shall lapse and be void within five years after the date of this statement if the proposal to which this statement relates is not substantially commenced.

3-2 The proponent shall provide the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation with written evidence which demonstrates that the proposal has substantially commenced on or before the expiration of five years from the date of this statement.

4 Compliance Reporting

4-1 The proponent shall prepare and maintain a compliance assessment plan to the satisfaction of the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

4-2 The proponent shall submit to the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation, the compliance assessment plan required by condition 4-1 at least six months prior to the first compliance assessment report required by condition 4-6.

The compliance assessment plan shall indicate:

- 1 the frequency of compliance reporting;
- 2 the approach and timing of compliance assessments;
- 3 the retention of compliance assessments;
- 4 reporting of potential non-compliances and corrective actions taken;
- 5 the table of contents of compliance assessment reports; and
- 6 public availability of compliance assessment reports.

4-3 The proponent shall assess compliance with conditions in accordance with the compliance assessment plan required by condition 4-1.

4-4 The proponent shall retain reports of all compliance assessments described in the compliance assessment plan required by condition 4-1 and shall make those reports available when requested by the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

4-5 The proponent shall advise the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation of any potential non-compliance as soon as practicable.

4-6 The proponent shall submit a compliance assessment report annually from the date of issue of this Implementation Statement addressing the previous twelve-month period or other period as agreed by the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The compliance assessment report shall:

- 1 be endorsed by the proponent's Vice-President or a person, approved in writing by the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation, delegated to sign on the Vice-President's behalf;
- 2 include a statement as to whether the proponent has complied with the conditions;
- 3 identify all potential non-compliances and describe corrective and preventative actions taken;
- 4 be made publicly available in accordance with the approved compliance assessment plan; and
- 5 indicate any proposed changes to the compliance assessment plan required by condition 4-1.

5 Performance Review and Reporting

5-1 The proponent shall submit to the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation Performance Review Reports at the conclusion of the first year after commencement of operation, and thereafter in the proponent's triennial reports. The Performance Review Reports shall address:

- 1 the major environmental risks and impacts; the performance objectives, standards and criteria related to these; the success of risk reduction/impact mitigation measures and results of monitoring related to the management of the major risks and impacts;
- 2 the level of progress in the achievement of sound environmental performance, including industry benchmarking, and the use of best available technology where practicable; and
- 3 significant improvements gained in environmental management which could be applied to this and other similar projects.

6 Flora and Vegetation

6-1 The proponent shall monitor the health and abundance of native flora including *Goodenia* sp. Pilbara calcrete, the listed Priority 1 flora species adjacent to areas to be cleared, to ensure that there is no decline in their health or abundance through the implementation of the proposal, in particular from the effects of dust and water application for dust control. This monitoring is to be carried out to the satisfaction of the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

- 6-2 The proponent shall submit annually the results of monitoring required by condition 6-1 to the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.
- 6-3 In the event that monitoring required by condition 6-1 indicates a decline in the health or abundance of native flora outside the areas to be cleared and which is attributable to the development proposal, the proponent shall report such findings to the CEO within 21 days of the decline being identified, and shall state the actions the proponent shall take to remediate the decline.
- 6-4 The proponent shall not take any Declared Rare Flora or Priority Flora species when clearing vegetation for borrow pits, and avoid Declared Rare Flora and Priority flora outside the areas to be cleared.
- 6-5 The proponent shall make the monitoring reports required by condition 6-2 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

7 Terrestrial Fauna

- 7-1 The proponent shall implement measures, to be agreed in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation, that may be required to facilitate protection of the conservation status of any short range endemics, including the Trapdoor Spider (*Nemesiidae* sp.) located in the proposal area.
- 7-2 The proponent shall submit annually the outcomes from any measures required by condition 7-1 to the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

8 Surface water flows

- 8-1 The proponent shall ensure that the run-off or seepage from mine components does not cause the quality of water in or leaving the proposal area to exceed ANZECC* requirements, taking into consideration natural background water quality, so that existing and potential uses, including ecosystem maintenance, are protected.
* - *Australian Water Quality Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Waters*, ANZECC (November 1992, and its updates).
- 8-2 The proponent shall monitor the quality of any run-off or seepage from mine components on and in proximity to the project area shown in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 to the Minister's Statement with particular regard to acid mine drainage. This monitoring is to be done to the satisfaction of the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.
- 8-3 The proponent shall submit the results of the monitoring to the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation.
- 8-4 In the event that monitoring shows that the quality of water in or leaving the proposal area exceeds ANZECC requirements the proponent shall, in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation, undertake measures to improve the water quality to conform with ANZECC requirements.

9 Closure and Rehabilitation

- 9-1 Prior to commencement of mining the proponent shall have conducted surveys of the proposal area to collect baseline information on the following:
1. soil profiles;
 2. groundwater levels;
 3. surface water flows;
 4. plant communities and flora; and
 5. landscape and landforms.
- 9-2 Waste dumps and other artificial landforms shall be constructed so that their shape, size, stability, soil profiles, ability to support native vegetation and response to surface water flows are comparable to natural landforms in the area.
- 9-3 Waste dumps, artificial landforms and other disturbed areas outside the pit, shall be progressively rehabilitated with native plant species of local provenance.
- 9-4 Within five years of mine closure, the percentage cover of native vegetation shall be comparable with that of natural landforms in the area.
- 9-5 No new noxious or environmental weed species shall be introduced into the area as a result of the implementation of the proposal.
- 9-6 Within five years of mine closure the distribution and abundance of weeds shall be no greater than the distribution and abundance of weeds prior to the implementation of the proposal.
- 9-7 Within five years of mine closure the proponent shall submit a report of rehabilitation performance monitoring to the CEO of the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Director General of the Department of State Development and shall address in the report the following:
- 1 progress towards meeting the criteria required by conditions 9-2 to 9-6 inclusive; and
 - 2 contingency management measures in the event that criteria are unlikely to be met.

Procedures

1. The Environmental Protection Authority may seek advice from other agencies or organisations, as required, in order to provide its advice to the Department of Environment and Conservation.

2. The Minister for Environment will determine any dispute between the proponent and the Environmental Protection Authority or the Department of Environment and Conservation over the fulfilment of the requirements of the conditions.
3. The proponent is required to apply for a Works Approval and Licence for this project under the provisions of Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

[Signed 17 September 2009]

Hon Donna Faragher JP MLC
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT; YOUTH

The Proposal (Assessment No. 1786)

The proposal is for the construction and operation of an open-cut iron ore mine at Section 10 in the Western Turner Syncline and an infrastructure corridor connecting the mining operation to the existing Tom Price Mine ore-processing facilities. Supporting facilities include a crusher and ancillary facilities, heavy vehicle workshop, offices and a borefield.

Table 1: Summary of key proposal characteristics

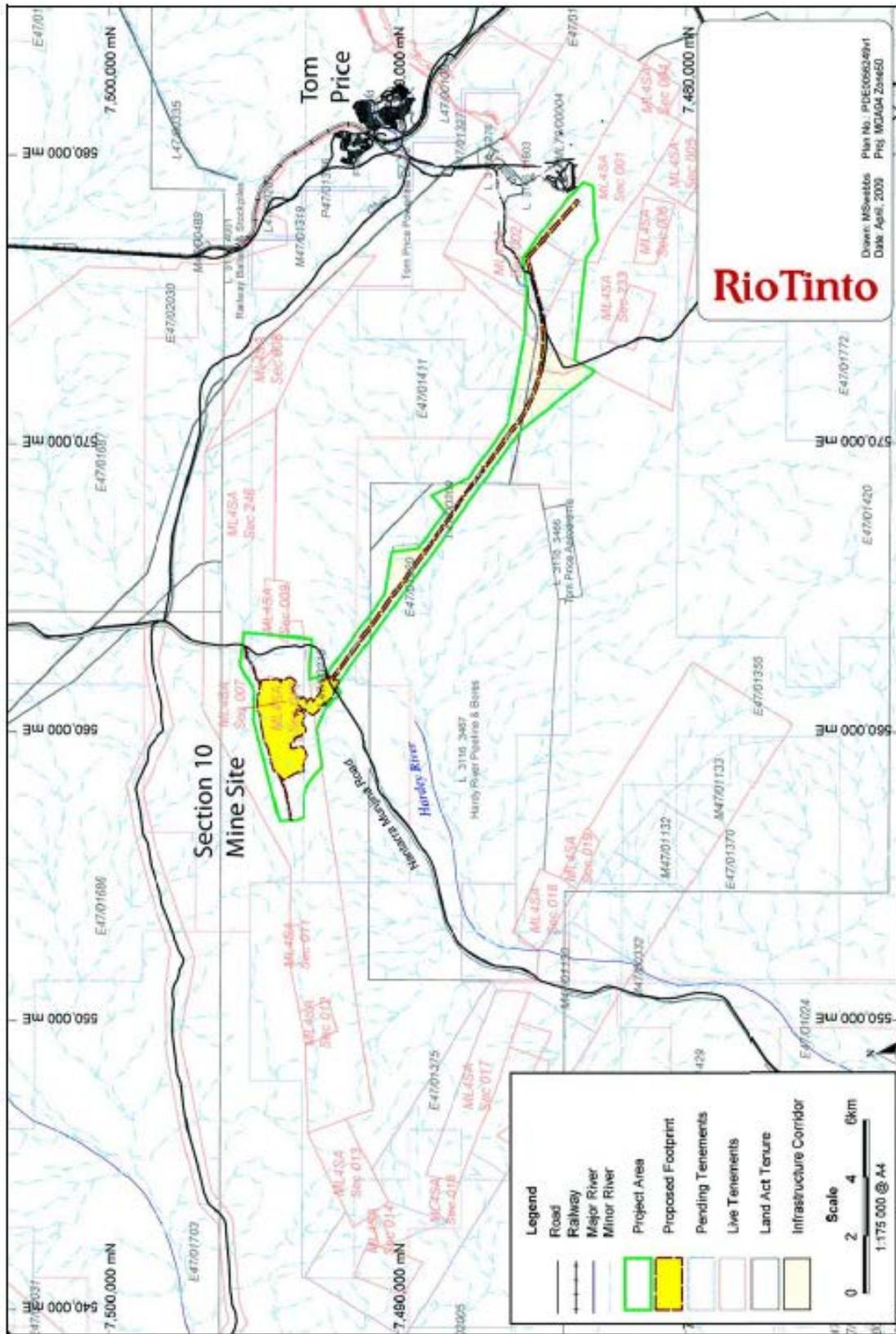
Element	Description
iron ore mine, within Brockman Iron Formation	mining above water table duration up to 10 years at full production, with low grade processing for an additional five to ten years production rate up to 25 million tonnes per annum footprint up to 530 hectares
linked infrastructure corridor containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • light and heavy vehicle access/haul roads; • covered ore conveyer; • power and communications lines; • borrow pits; and • water pipes 	length approximately 20 kilometres, from minesite to Mt Tom Price ore processing facilities maximum footprint of 220 hectares, includes borrow pits
water supply	from bores within the Western Turner Syncline Section 10 orebody footprint.

Figures (attached)

Figure 1 – Project location

Figure 2 – Conceptual mine layout

Figure 1 – Project location



Attachment 1 to Ministerial Statement 807

Change to proposal under s45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

This Attachment replaces Schedule 1 in Ministerial Statement 807

Proposal: Western Turner Syncline, Section 10 Iron Ore Project, Shire of Ashburton

Proponent: Hamersley Iron Pty Limited

The Proposal (Assessment No. 1786)

The proposal is for the construction and operation of an open-cut iron ore mine at Section 10 in the Western Turner Syncline and an infrastructure corridor connecting the mining operation to the existing Tom Price Mine ore-processing facilities. Supporting facilities include a crusher and ancillary facilities, heavy vehicle workshop, offices and a borefield.

Change: Removal of Water Supply and Production Limits

Table 1: Summary of key proposal characteristics

Element	Description of proposal	Description of approved change to proposal
Iron ore mine, within Brockman Iron Formation	<p>Mining above watertable</p> <p>Duration up to 10 years at full production, with low grade processing for an additional five to 10 years</p> <p>Production rate up to 25 million tonnes per annum</p> <p>Footprint up to 530 hectares</p>	<p>Mining above watertable</p> <p>Removed as not a key characteristic relevant to the environment</p> <p>Removed as not a key characteristic relevant to the environment</p> <p>Footprint up to 530 hectares</p>
<p>Linked infrastructure corridor containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • light and heavy vehicle access/haul roads; • covered ore conveyer; • power and communication lines; • borrow pits; and • water pipes 	<p>Length approximately 20 kilometres, from minesite to Mt Tom Price ore processing facilities</p> <p>Maximum footprint of 220 hectares, included borrow pits</p>	<p>Length approximately 20 kilometres, from minesite to Mt Tom Price ore processing facilities</p> <p>Maximum footprint of 220 hectares, included borrow pits</p>

Water supply	From bores within the Western Turner Syncline Section 10 orebody footprint.	Removed as regulated under other legislation
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Note: Text in **bold** in the Key Characteristics Table, indicates changes to the proposal.

Figures (attached)

Figure 1 – Project location

Figure 2 – Conceptual mine layout

[Signed 10 December 2013

Dr Paul Vogel

CHAIRMAN

Environmental Protection Authority
under delegated authority

Figure 1 – Project location

